

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain in this application.

Claims 1 and 11 are amended.

Furthermore, the above amendments in the claims do not add any new matter of the claimed invention.

Claims 1-20 are allowable because Claims 1 and 11 are amended to overcome the objection set forth in this Office Action.

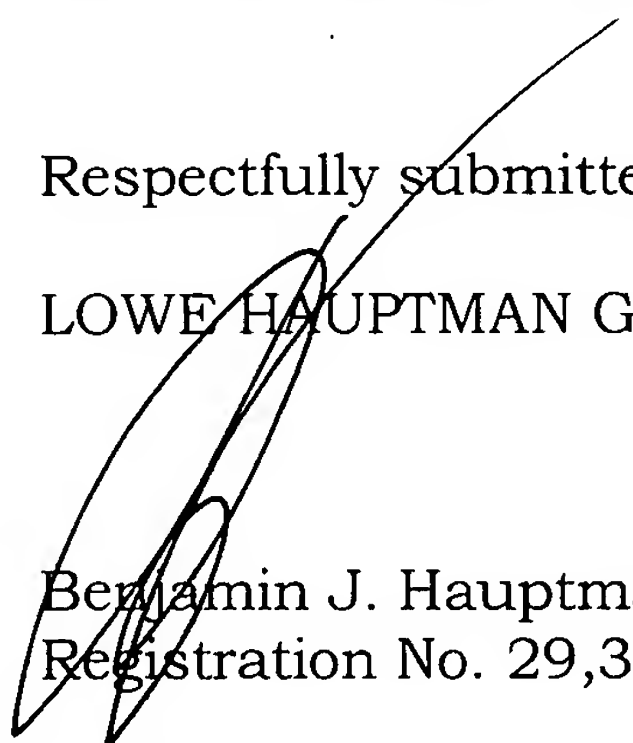
Conclusion

In light of the above amendment and remarks, applicant submits that Claims 1-20 as currently presented are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

LOWE HAUPTMAN GILMAN & BERNER, LLP


Benjamin J. Hauptman
Registration No. 29,310

1700 Diagonal Road, Suite 300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 684-1111
Facsimile: (703) 518-5499
Date: May 6, 2004